

HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

My parents had four children: James, the oldest, myself, Jacob and Elizabeth Ann.

My father, Thomas Jones, was born November 3, 1787. My mother, Mary Naylor, was born two years before he was born.

My father didn't unite with any religion of the day, but he believed the Baptist persuasion. My mother was raised a Quaker. She was turned out of her home for marrying out of her church.

In 1825, my father moved to Wells township, where I met the girl I married, Margaret Talbot. We were married September 3, 1831.

Her parents both died when she was 13 months old. She was living with her grandmother when I married her.

Her father's name was Absolem Talbot and her mother was Sarah Mulholland.

In early life I felt concerned about religion and sought the Lord in prayer. I joined the Reborn Methodist Church and was baptized. In about two weeks I was elected class leader and placed over the branch of 130 members. This was in Pensville, Morgan County, Ohio.

About 1842, James Dunn came into our neighborhood and told the people about the Mormons. My brother James believed the word and left for Illinois.

I read their books and believed them, especially the "Voice of Warning." My wife was dissatisfied with my reading, so I laid it by for a while.

James went to Illinois and joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

After the death of Joseph and Hyrum Smith the saints were driven from Illinois to Winter Quarters.

James came back to my father's home in Ohio. He taught us the gospel and baptized me and my wife at night. This was about March 3, 1847.

We began preparations to leave for Winter Quarters, arriving there July 27, 1847. With me were my wife and my family, Martha, John, Mary and Elizabeth.

I moved back across the river to Panesville in the spring of 1848. I bought some tools and began blacksmithing.

I was ordained an Elder and a Seventy by President Samuel Spaague and recommended to preach the gospel.

In the spring of 1850 I started for Salt Lake City and arrived September 7, 1850.

I helped lay off the fort in Little Cottonwood Canyon. Soon after, I sold out and moved to Provo, Utah, where I bought a lot and built a four-room house.

Here I served as constable, acted as deputy sheriff and high councilman.

I had sealed to me Sarah Ann Cummings on December 18, 1856. I also had Annie Poulsen sealed to me on January 16, 1857.

On November 9, 1859, I moved to Mt. Pleasant, Utah, and worked at North Bend. Here I built a cabin.

My brother was bishop of North Bend. I was appointed ward clerk on January 7, 1860.

On November 22 the superintendent of common schools organized No. 5 district, and I was elected trustee No. 1.

On April 12, 1861, I gave to the poor fund one yoke of oxen to go to Missouri for the saints.

On March 4, 1864, my first wife, Margaret Talbot, died. I took her body to Provo, where she was buried March 9, 1864.

In August I hired Adell Cox to teach school and encouraged the people to send their children.

My son Elisha hurt himself in an accident and was crippled for the rest of his life.

In October, 1864, I sold out and moved to Heber City, where I engaged in farming and blacksmithing. I was elected a school trustee and justice of the peace.

In December my wife, Carolin Jones, died, leaving a baby seven days old. This left my wife Sallie with a family of 18 to cook and wash for.

(End of the Diary Report.)

Elisha Jones died on August 18, 1880. He was a blacksmith, shoemaker and dentist.

His favorite song was "Oh, Ye Mountains High." He was the husband of three wives and the father of 28 children.

SARAH ANN CUMMINGS JONES

At the death of her husband, Elisha Jones, Sarah Ann Cummings Jones was left with little of this world's goods. She became the mother of three families, 18 children to wash and cook for.

She had cared for Elisha Warren during the years he was helpless. She cared for



Jacob during a long sickness and death. She also cared for Caroline from the time she was seven days old.

She not only cared for her own family and the other wives' children, but let one of her daughters live with Pap and Mam Cummings to keep house for them. They were unable to take care of themselves.

"Aunt Sallie" finally took them into her own home, where she cared for them for three years. Her mother was 83 and her father 93 when they died in 1895.

Her brother, John Cummings' wife died and "Aunt Sallie" went into his home each day and washed and cooked for his family until he remarried.

"Aunt Sallie" suffered a stroke and was partially helpless for some time before she died on September 18, 1999.

She was the mother of three sons and five daughters. One son died in infancy.

JOHN AND RACHEL CANARDA CUMMINGS

John Cummings and his wife (known as Pap and Mam Cummings) left Nauvoo in 1846 and moved to Gallows Grove, five miles above Kanesville. They stayed there three years.

Not much is known of the family while living in Iowa. At one time "Pap" was Joseph Smith's body guard.

On June 1, 1852, they started their journey to Salt Lake Valley in the John Maxwell company.

Their son, John Cummings, then five years old, remembers gathering buffalo chips and making a fire by working a bellows.

At one time a trunk tied with a rope gave way and let John fall off. The wagon wheels passed over his leg. He moved his head in time to let the wagon go on without killing him.